

**United States District Court
Western District of North Carolina**

3:19 MC - 129 - FDW

**FILED
CHARLOTTE, NC**

SEP 05 2019

**US DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NC**

IN RE: Appointment of a
Merit Selection Panel to
consider the Reappointment
Of U.S Magistrate Judge
David C. Keesler

ORDER

This matter is before the court on its own motion to designate individuals to serve as a Merit Selection Panel for the purpose of considering the reappointment of the Honorable David C. Keesler as a United States Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court, Western District of North Carolina.

Pursuant to Section 420.30.10 of the "*Selection, Appointment, and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges*" published by the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, revised October 2016, the court must establish a Merit Selection Panel (Panel) to assist the district judges in their determination to reappointment an incumbent magistrate judge.

The Panel, being composed of thirteen members, including at least two lay persons, is to consider and review the incumbent's performance in office as a magistrate judge and consider comments received from members of the bar and the public, and any other pertinent evidence as to the incumbent's good character, judgment, legal ability, temperament, and commitment to equal justice under the law. An interview with the incumbent, interviews with other judicial officers of the bench, and interviews with other agency heads of the federal court family are considered a part of the Panel's charge. The Clerk of Court shall serve as administrative support to the Panel but shall not be a voting member.

All Panel members are herein advised that in the event a vacancy occurs in the position of U.S. Magistrate Judge in this district that one year must have elapsed between the application deadline for any such vacancy and the date of this Order.

Panel members receive no compensation for their service, but will be reimbursed for travel and lodging expenses, including per diem allowances, per federal allowed cost ceilings.

After considering all information, the Panel is to provide a brief written report containing its recommendation(s) and any other information the Panel believes would be helpful to the court. This report is due by December 1, 2019. This written report and recommendation as to the reappointment of U.S. Magistrate Judge David C. Keesler are to be provided to the Honorable Frank D. Whitney, Chief, U.S. District Judge.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the following persons are appointed to the Merit Selection Panel for the United States District Court, Western District of North Carolina for the purpose of assisting the court with the reappointment of U.S. Magistrate Judge David C. Keesler.

The Merit Selection Panel shall be chaired by Attorney Susan Rodriguez who shall work with the other members of the Panel to establish rules of procedure for the panel to follow in accordance with Judicial Conference guidelines and to assure that all confidentiality requirements are met.

The Clerk of Court is directed to send to each member of the Panel a copy of this Order and a copy of the booklet *"The Selection, Appointment, and Reappointment of United States Magistrate Judges"* as revised October 2016, and other materials which may be of assistance to the Panel. The Clerk shall also send a copy of this Order to the Magistrates Division of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts and the Circuit Executive of the Fourth Circuit.

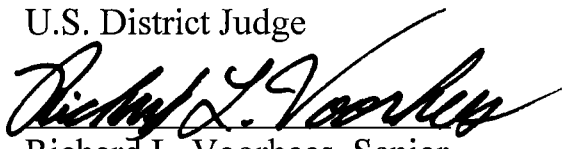
SO ORDERED THIS 5th DAY OF

September, 2019.

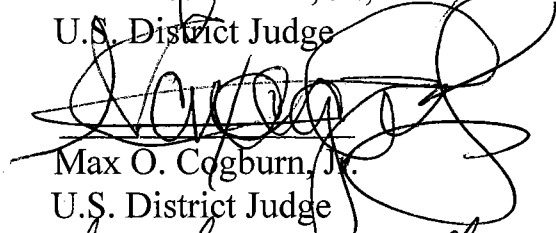

Frank D. Whitney, Chief
U.S. District Judge

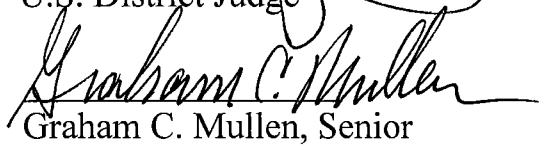

Martin Reidinger
U.S. District Judge


Ken Bell
U.S. District Judge


Richard L. Voorhees, Senior
U.S. District Judge


Robert J. Conrad, Jr.,
U.S. District Judge


Max O. Cogburn, Jr.
U.S. District Judge


Graham C. Mullen, Senior
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bcc: All Magistrate Judges
All Bankruptcy Judges